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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/566,327

01/27/2006

Kenji Ogawa

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EXAMINER

MCCOMMAS, STUART S

ART UNIT

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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/566,327	<b>Applicant(s)</b> OGAWA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Stuart McCommas	<b>Art Unit</b> 2629	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 June 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,5 and 9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,5,9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)         | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)         | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-2 and 4-5 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakamura (United States Patent Application Publication 2002/0021264), hereinafter referenced as Nakamura, in view of Kim et al. (United States Patent 7,109,951), hereinafter referenced as Kim, and further in view of Homma (United States Patent Application Publication 2001/0020923), and further in view of Hirakawa (United States Patent 6,140,775), hereinafter referenced as Hirakawa.

Regarding claim 1, Nakamura discloses a method of driving a plasma display panel 15, the plasma display panel including discharge cells 16, each discharge cell formed at an intersection of a scan electrode and a sustain electrode, and a data electrode (figure 3), the method comprising:

dividing one field period into a plurality of sub-fields, each sub-field having an initializing or priming discharge period with an erasure period, a writing period, and sustaining period (figure 9; figure 12);

performing in the priming discharge period and in the erasure period either an all cell initializing operation or a selective initializing operation, where the all-cell initializing

Art Unit: 2629

operation causes initializing discharge in all the discharge cells for displaying an image (paragraphs 58-63; paragraphs 90-98; figure 8; figure 9; figure 12) and the selective initializing operation selectively causes initializing discharge using the erasure pulse  $P_e$  only in the discharge cells where sustaining pulses and sustaining discharge occurred in the previous sub-field (paragraph 63; paragraphs 90-98; figure 9; figure 12). Further Nakamura discloses that each of the initializing periods for performing the all-cell initializing operation has a former half part and a latter half part of the priming discharge period (figure 9), where in the former half part there is application of an ascending ramp waveform voltage  $P_p$  to the scan electrodes that causes a first initializing discharge using the scan electrodes as anodes and the sustain electrodes and data electrodes as cathodes (paragraph 60; figure 9) and where in the latter half part, application of a descending ramp waveform voltage  $P_{pe}$  which is ranging from a voltage with the same polarity as the voltage applied during the former half part of initialization period of a voltage reverse in polarity thereto, to the scan electrodes causes a second initializing discharge using the scan electrodes as the cathodes and the sustain electrodes and data electrodes as the anodes (paragraph 60; figure 9). Further Nakamura discloses that in the initializing period for performing the selective initializing operation, a descending ramp waveform voltage is applied to the scan electrodes, using the scan electrodes as the cathodes and the sustain electrodes and data electrodes as the anodes (paragraph 60; figure 9).

However Nakamura fails to disclose an abnormal charge erasing part and, in the abnormal charge erasing part, applying a positive rectangular waveform voltage to the

Art Unit: 2629

scan electrodes for a predetermined period of time, and then applying a negative rectangular waveform voltage for a shorter period than the predetermined period of time.

In a similar field of invention Kim discloses an abnormal charge erasing part and, in the abnormal charge erasing part, applying a positive rectangular waveform voltage to the scan electrodes for a predetermined period of time, and then applying a rectangular waveform voltage (column 8 lines 64-67; column 9 lines 1-25; figure 8).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Nakamura with Kim by specifically providing an abnormal charge erasing part and, in the abnormal charge erasing part, applying a positive rectangular waveform voltage to the scan electrodes for a predetermined period of time, and then applying a rectangular waveform voltage for the purpose of allowing excess charge to be controlled and erased to avoid misfires in a plasma display panel to improve the quality of the display (column 3 lines 27-41).

In a similar field of invention Homma discloses applying a negative waveform voltage to the scan electrodes in an abnormal charge erasing part (paragraphs 11-20; paragraphs 61-73; figures 8-10).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Nakamura with Homma by specifically providing applying a negative waveform voltage to the scan electrodes in an abnormal charge erasing part for the purpose of allowing excess charge to be controlled in a plasma display panel to improve the quality of the display (paragraph 15).

In a similar field of invention Hirakawa discloses applying a positive rectangular waveform voltage to the scan electrodes for a predetermined period of time, and then applying a negative rectangular waveform voltage for a shorter period than the predetermined period of time (column 14 lines 41-67; column 15 lines 1-50; figure 5).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Nakamura with Hirakawa by specifically providing applying a positive rectangular waveform voltage to the scan electrodes for a predetermined period of time, and then applying a negative rectangular waveform voltage for a shorter period than the predetermined period of time for the purpose of allowing excess charge to be controlled in a plasma display panel to improve the quality and performance of the display.

Regarding claim 2, Nakamura, Kim, Homma and Hirakawa, the combination discloses everything as applied above, further Homma discloses wherein in the abnormal charge erasing part, a voltage is not applied to the sustain electrode when a rectangular waveform voltage with a negative polarity is applied (figures 8-10).

Regarding claim 4, Nakamura, Kim, Homma and Hirakawa, the combination discloses everything as applied above, further Nakamura discloses wherein a number of times of all-cell initializing period in the one field period is controlled by determining either the all-cell initializing operation or the selective initializing operation according to an APL (paragraphs 90-98; figure 12).

Regarding claim 5, Nakamura, Kim, Homma and Hirakawa, the combination discloses everything as applied above, further Nakamura discloses wherein a number of

Art Unit: 2629

times of all-cell initializing period in the one field period is controlled by determining either the all-cell initializing operation or the selective initializing operation according to an APL (paragraphs 90-98; figure 12).

Regarding claim 9, Nakamura, Kim, Homma and Hirakawa, the combination discloses everything as applied above, further Hirakawa discloses wherein the predetermined period of time in which the positive rectangular waveform voltage is applied is greater than or equal to 5us, and the period in which the negative rectangular waveform is applied, is shorter than the predetermined period of time and is less than or equal to 3us (column 14 lines 41-67; column 15 lines 1-50; figure 5).

### ***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are believed to be answered by and therefore moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

Art Unit: 2629

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stuart McCommas whose telephone number is (571)270-3568. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9 AM to 5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Eisen can be reached on (571)272-7687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Stuart McCommas/  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2629

SSM



Application/Control Number: 10/566,327

Page 8

Art Unit: 2629

***/Alexander Eisen/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2629***